

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 870

By Black

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Reggie Mudd, the  
Gallatin Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the  
Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Reggie Mudd is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, an astute and dedicated community leader, Mr. Mudd was recently named as the Gallatin Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Reggie Mudd was raised on a farm in Bardstown, Kentucky, where he learned the value of hard work and discipline from his humble, middle-class parents; and

WHEREAS, a 1971 graduate of Bardstown High School, Reggie Mudd was the captain of the state championship football team, named First Team All-State in football, and winner of the Scholar-Athlete Award, the Advanced Biology Award, and the Americanism Award; he also served with distinction as the president of the student council and editor of the yearbook; and

WHEREAS, a true leader among his peers, Mr. Mudd earned his college degree at Centre College, where he was a two-year starter on the football team, a member of the Higher Judiciary Council, the Secretary of the Student Congress, and the President of Delta Kappa Epsilon, which was named the most outstanding chapter in the country; and

WHEREAS, after working for two years in New York for the national headquarters of his fraternity, Mudd commenced his career in the restaurant industry, mastering his trade and honing his talents at various chains in California, Louisiana, Alabama, Texas, and Kentucky

before joining the Lebanon-based Cracker Barrel Old Country Stores and Restaurants in 1982 as a management trainee; and

WHEREAS, this brilliant businessman was instrumental in growing the company from twenty-eight stores to more than 320 with over 22,000 employees; Mr. Mudd's tireless efforts and unsurpassed integrity did not go unnoticed, and he eventually became the Senior Vice President of Operations and Chief Operations Officer, a position he ably held until his retirement in 1997; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, Reggie Mudd and his beloved wife, Mary Anne, founded Mudd Properties, which owns fifteen buildings that are more than 100 years old as well as 135,000 square feet of industrial and warehouse property and office space that has served as incubators for numerous Gallatin businesses; and

WHEREAS, making historical renovation a personal undertaking, Reggie Mudd has lent his time and tremendous talents to renovating the Gallatin Public Library and the Cairo Rosenwald School as well as reworking the neon sign at Blue's Jewelry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mudd is a dedicated civic leader who has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order through his work with numerous boards and organizations, including service as the Chairman of the Gallatin Downtown Library Committee, President of Greater Gallatin and the Gallatin Noon Rotary, District Chairman of Boy Scouts of America, Vice Chairman of the Tennessee Preservation Trust; and

WHEREAS, a member of the Boy Scouts of America District Executive Board, the Centre College of Kentucky Alumni Board, St. John Vianney Finance Committee, St. John Vianney School Board, Gallatin Noon Rotary Club Board of Directors, Gallatin Downtown Master Plan Committee, Gallatin Economic Development Advisory Board, and the Cumberland Region Tomorrow Board; and

WHEREAS, Reggie Mudd also served with acumen and alacrity as the President of Wilson County Habitat for Humanity, where he led the organization to purchase and develop a subdivision that would allow more than twenty families to have their first home; and

WHEREAS, the Mudd family expresses their Christian faith as active parishioners at St. John Vianney Catholic Church; and

WHEREAS, Reggie Mudd's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mudd is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people like Mr. Mudd who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Reggie Mudd for his many contributions to the good people of Tennessee, his unwavering commitment to others, and his astute leadership in Gallatin; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Reggie Mudd for his meritorious service to the State of Tennessee and the people of Gallatin, congratulate him upon being named the Gallatin Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.